

British and German Coir Associations for promoting consumption of Indian coir by Coir Board;

- (vi) Participation in important fairs/exhibitions;
- (vii) Organising seminars for popularising the use of coir geo-textiles.

GIC'S Vocational Training

4314. SHRI ANANDARAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether General Insurance Corporation had conducted vocational training course after the completion of +2 level all over the country;

(b) whether all the persons given vocational training have been provided employment;

(c) if not, the reasons for giving advertisement for employment to outside candidates; and

(d) the steps being taken to give employment to those who have been provided training ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) It has been reported by the General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) that a two year 'job-linked' insurance vocational course at 10+2 level was introduced in 1988 in a few schools in selected cities by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) in collaboration with the GIC on a 'pilot project' basis. The student pass-outs upto 1994 have since been absorbed as Assistants in the industry. It was found difficult for the general insurance industry to absorb such large numbers on a continuing basis and therefore, the job-guarantee was withdrawn from 1994 onwards. Even though there is no job-guarantee since 1994, the GIC and its subsidiaries permit the successful students from the vocational stream to compete along with general candidates even though they do not satisfy other requisite qualifications for the Assistant's post from time to time.

[Translation]

Smuggling of Narcotics

4315. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of smuggling of narcotics detected during each of the last two years, State-wise;

(b) the number of convicts sentenced;

(c) whether the Government have any scheme for

increasing the reward amount to those who were instrumented in detecting the cases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) The State-wise number of cases of smuggling of narcotics detected during the last two years is as given in the attached statement

(b) As per information available, 2456 and 2727 persons were convicted during the years 1995 and 1996 respectively.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Statewise Number of Cases of Smuggling of Narcotics

S.No.	State/U.T.	1995	1996 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	531	163
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12	1
3.	Assam	73	60
4.	Bihar	54	31
5.	Goa	20	53
6.	Gujarat	251	164
7.	Haryana	94	21
8.	Himachal Pradesh	52	38
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	55	55
10.	Karnataka	2	—
11.	Kerala	178	201
12.	Madhya Pradesh	125	337
13.	Maharashtra	414	548
14.	Manipur	149	170
15.	Meghalaya	76	125
16.	Mizoram	250	12
17.	Nagaland	49	55
18.	Orissa	5	73

1	2	3	4
19. Punjab		377	285
20. Rajasthan		171	312
21. Tamil Nadu		2368	2693
22. Tirpura		38	21
23. Uttar Pradesh		6359	5417
24. West Bengal		241	97
25. Delhi		828	620
26. Pondicherry		5	—
27. A&N Islands		3	1
28. Chandigarh		19	12
Total		12799	11565

[English]

Trade with Bangladesh

4316. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to expand trade relation with Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, the details of areas identified for Indo-Bangla trade in the Ninth Plan;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) It is Government's Policy to expand trade relations with all countries, including neighbouring countries like Bangladesh.

(b) India and Bangladesh have recently exchanged tariff concessions on a number of products of mutual interest with a view to increase bilateral trade. However, no area has been identified in this regard in the Ninth Plan.

[Translation]

World Bank Aided Projects in Bihar

4317. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister for the STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects functioning in Bihar with the assistance of the World Bank, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Bihar Government to launch some more projects with the assistance of the World Bank;

(c) if so, the number of projects lying pending with the Union Government for clearance, location-wise; and

(d) the reasons for delay in granting them clearance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) There are four World Bank aided projects in the State of the Bihar, the location-wise details are as under :-

Name of the Project	Locations in Bihar
1. Bihar Plateau Dev.	Ranchi, Chaibara, Jamshedpur & Dumka
2. Technician Education-I (Multi-State)	Bokaro, Patna, Ranchi, Dhanbad, Muzaffarpur, Aurrangabad, Siwan, Manoharpur, Saharsa & Dumka
3. States Road (Multi-State)	Construction of a bridge over Ganga at Bhagalpur & approach roads to the bridge
4. Shrimp & Fish Culture (Multi-State)	Eastern Champaran, Muzaffarpur & Begusarai

Besides these projects there is one Project Preparation Facility extended to the State of Bihar to undertake diagnostic studies for Reform & restructuring of the State power sector and many other Central Sector project with the World Bank assistance in which the State of Bihar is one of the beneficiary.

(b) to (d) There are a number of proposed projects for World Bank assistance to the State of Bihar. Some of these are Bihar Forestry, Submrekha Irrigation and Bihar Primary Education project. These projects are at various stages of processing and the details including the amount in respect of these projects will be known only after the finalisation of aid negotiations with the World Bank.

[English]

Legislative Ceiling on Public Debts

4318. SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has sought a legislative ceiling on Public debts;

(b) if so, the action has been taken by the Government in the matter;

(c) whether the RBI also called upon the Government for higher inflows of foreign savings to supplement